

Below is an update on the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan and Health Insurance Marketplace:

## <u>Iowa Health and Wellness Plan</u>

**Iowa Health and Wellness Plan Contributions- Upcoming Mailing:** Members who initially enrolled in the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan in January 2014 will soon begin paying monthly contributions, or premiums. The contributions are waived for individuals who completed both Healthy Behaviors (wellness exam and health risk assessment) during their first 12 months of eligibility. The contributions are also waived for individuals whose income is below 50 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, are medically exempt, or are an American Indian or Alaskan Native.

- Individuals with income 50-100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level: \$5 monthly contribution
- Individuals with income 101-133 percent of the Federal Poverty Level: \$10 monthly contribution

In January, individuals will receive a letter and sample billing statement. The letter explains when the contributions begin, and provides a sample of what to expect on future statements. View the <a href="Lowa Wellness Plan letter and statement">Lowa Wellness Plan letter and statement</a> and the <a href="Lowa Marketplace Choice Plan letter and statement">Lowa Marketplace Choice Plan letter and statement</a>. The mailing will be complete by mid-January and will be sent to approximately 12,800 members (6,300 Wellness Plan members and 6,500 Marketplace Choice Plan members).

No contributions will be collected during the month of January. Members will receive a billing statement in February requesting payment for both January and February's contribution amount. No payments should be sent to lowa Medicaid related to the upcoming mailing. The first payment will be collected when a live billing statement is sent. You can learn more about how to read future billing statements by accessing the article on page three of the Fall 2014 lowa Medicaid newsletter.

**NEMT Waiver Amendment Approved Through July 2015:** The Iowa Department of Human Services requested to continue the waiver of the non-emergency medical transportation (NEMT) services for Iowa Wellness Plan and Iowa Marketplace Choice Plan members. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently approved the continued waiver of NEMT services through July 2015. Learn more by accessing the <a href="mainto:approval letter">approval letter</a>. You may also access details regarding the waiver through the <a href="Iowa Wellness Plan Waiver Authority">Iowa Wellness Plan Waiver Authority</a> and <a href="mainto:Special Terms and Conditions">Special Terms and Conditions</a>.

**Medicaid Renewals- Help Communicate Importance to Members:** It's important to remind members that eligibility for Medicaid coverage must be renewed at least every 12 months. Medicaid members, including Iowa Health and Wellness Plan members receive a renewal form in the mail from the Iowa Department of Human Services. The renewal must be completed and

returned by the due date on the form, or members will be disenrolled from coverage. Please stress to members the importance of completing the form and returning it on time.

Members who miss the renewal due date may turn the renewal form in up to 90 days past the effective date of cancellation for potential reconsideration of eligibility. Continuation of Medicaid benefits is always dependent on eligibility. If the member's circumstances change, eligibility may be adjusted accordingly. Learn more by access the <u>enrollment assister renewal fact sheet</u> as well as the <u>member renewal fact sheet</u>.

## **Health Insurance Marketplace**

Marketplace to Commence Distribution of Consumer Form 1095-A Containing Data on Premium Tax Credits for Tax Purposes: Beginning January 10, the Health Insurance Marketplace will begin generating and distributing Form 1095-A to Marketplace consumers. Marketplace consumers will be able to access their information online as early as Saturday, January 10, 2015, and will begin getting their forms in the mail as early as the beginning of the week of January 12. Consumers will use Form 1095-A to obtain information needed to complete the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Form 8962 (premium tax credit). Consumers must complete Form 8962 and file it with their Federal tax return if they want to claim the premium tax credit or they received premium assistance through advance credit payments. Learn more about tax forms by visiting the tax section of HealthCare.gov.

HHS, Treasury Departments Announce Marketplace-related Resources for Tax Filers: In preparation for the 2015 tax filing season, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Treasury Department are putting in place resources to provide tax filers with the information and resources they need to get questions about their Marketplace health insurance coverage answered. Beginning this year, consumers who have coverage through the Marketplaces, or who decided not to enroll in coverage, will have to take additional steps in their tax filing process. In the coming weeks, consumer-friendly tools and resources will be made available for those with health coverage through the Marketplaces, those seeking an exemption, and those looking for information about the fee for those who could afford to purchase coverage but chose not to. General resources are now available on the IRS and Healthcare.gov websites. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will also be posting resources on Marketplace.cms.gov, including a recent presentation pertaining to Marketplace coverage and taxes.

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